

Scott County Kicker

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DISFIGURING THE LANDSCAPE.
An agricultural paper makes a strong protest against the too common practice in the rural districts of "disfiguring fences, barns and other buildings, trees, etc., with glaring signs." There might have been included in the list of great sprawling billboards which are to be seen along railways and highways at frequent intervals, says the Louisville Courier-Journal. A large amount of picturesque scenery is marred in this way. Nothing is sacred to the enterprising advertiser who is interested in keeping his wares before the public eye. It requires the consent of the property owners to disfigure buildings and beautiful landscapes in this way, but as some farmers and landowners find it to be a source of some small revenue, they are more than willing to permit the advertiser to work his will in such matters. But the farmer gets very little money out of the transaction, and only succeeds in detracting from the appearance of his property. There are many farmers who do not realize that there is a money value to them in keeping their farms and buildings in good order. A good beginning in that direction is by keeping the premises clear of things which are likely to be distasteful to passersby.

The use of the automobile has increased with great rapidity, and it has been inevitable that with the increase in use there would be an increase in the number of accidents, even though there should be, as a rule, an increase in the care exercised. Fatalities from horse-drawn vehicles have so long been a matter of course that they have attracted less attention than fatalities caused by automobiles, although until recently the number of the former has greatly exceeded the latter. In New York city this far this year the fatalities recorded are 138, year the deaths caused by wagons number 117. Last year, in the same month, wagons caused the death of 111 persons, while automobiles killed only 79. It will thus be seen that the fatalities caused by automobiles in New York city have increased nearly 100 per cent, while the number chargeable to wagons was nearly stationary. These, however, are the figures for a densely populated city, and it is altogether probable that if the figures could be compiled for the entire country they would show that accidents to horse-drawn vehicles still outnumber those to automobiles, as was ascertained to be the case in England last year.

A young woman living near Syracuse has just died as the result of a "joke." Someone pulled a chair from under her while she was out in company, "there was a general laugh, in which she joined to hide her pain," and she died of peritonitis at a hospital four days afterward. Next July there will be a chance for some of her humorous friends to set a cannon cracker under somebody's chair, says the Buffalo Express. It is good to have minds that see the pleasant side of life in that way.

"There never can be any real and lasting peace in this country until world's championship baseball games have been eliminated from the sporting calendar," says the Chicago Tribune. The contemporary seems disposed to adopt the traditional method of pacification, namely: Creating a desert and calling it peace.

It is now said that steamboats and trains spread disease. But this in no sense lifts the responsibility for the same ill-doing from the house fly and the mosquito.

It is considered worthy of note that a laborer with \$50,000 continued to labor at two dollars a day. He might just as well have blown it acquiring a headache.

Counterfeiting has decreased in this country during the past year, according to police reports. The gang must be working on those new \$1,000 bills.

Los Angeles has opened a school where girls are taught dressing as a fine art. If they were taught dressing as a culinary art, there might be some good accomplished.

The Paris Matin tells us that the man who understands women is never desired of them. But this disability will not handicap most men of average intelligence.

A woman has just died from blood poisoning, due to sticking her hat pin into her head. Usually some one besides the user of the pin has been the victim.

Aviators in Germany are paid \$37 a month—and at death accounting for the scarcity of German aviators.

Chicago has a school for brides, but all graduates are not guaranteed a position.

One fashion authority has it that women are to wear socks; another that they are to wear larger stockings. And Christmas not far off.

"A woman always blames her lawyer when she loses," a New York attorney exclaims. Probably because she's assured her she can't lose.

MAILS CLOSED TO BOOZE AND GERMS

PARCELS POST WILL CARRY FRUIT, BUTTER, EGGS, LARD, FISH AND MEATS.

DRIED REPTILES PERMITTED

Poisons, Intoxicants, Firearms, Infernal Machines and the Like Are Barred—Regulations Sent to 35,000 Postmasters.

Washington.—Butter, eggs, lard, fish, fresh meats, dressed fowls, vegetables, fruits and other necessities of life can be sent through the parcels post in effect January 1, according to the regulations made public by Postmaster General Hitchcock.

The only stipulation in the shipment of such substances is that they be so packed as not to "break loose in the mail," and that fresh meats may be shipped only through the first "zone" from each parcels post. Parcels that are perishable must be marked so.

It also will be possible to ship queen bees, live insects and dried reptiles. Seeds of fruit, nursery stock and other plant products will be entitled to mailing privileges under the parcels post.

Other allowable articles include candies, confectionery, yeast cakes, soap, tobacco, pills, tablets, toys and musical instruments. Parcels must be limited to 11 pounds and with no larger dimensions than 6 feet over all.

Classed as unallowable articles are spirituous, vinous, malted, fermented or other intoxicating liquors; poisons of every kind; poisonous animals, reptiles, explosives of every kind, inflammable materials, infernal machines, disease germs or scabs or materials of whatever kind that may kill.

Firearms are also excluded. The department is pushing out the regulations to about 35,000 offices or "units," so that the postmasters will have time to study them before the law goes into effect the 1st of January.

The postmaster general believes that the parcels post will help solve the cost of living problem, in that it will enable farmers to ship stuff to the markets at a more reasonable rate than offered them by the express companies.

"Candy Trust" Sued by U. S.
Philadelphia.—A civil antitrust suit against the so-called "candy trust" was filed here by Attorney General Wickham. In the bill the government charges that the Philadelphia Jobbing Confectioners' association has conspired to coerce candy manufacturers from selling direct to retailers, to consumers or to jobbers other than members of the association.

Bavarian Crown to Ludwig.
Munich, Bavaria.—The demand for the actual king instead of the shadow of a monarch is spreading widely in Bavaria. The clerical newspapers in close touch with the Bavarian cabinet join the Liberal newspapers in urging the prince regent to assume the crown as Ludwig III.

Postal Bill Totals \$278,489,000.
Washington.—The postoffice appropriation bill, aggregating \$278,489,781, including \$750,000 for parcels post equipment and \$25,000 for the parcels post commission, was reported to the house. The total is a decrease of \$3,061,727 from last year's estimates.

Slept in Open 65 Years.
Tankersley, Tex.—Richard F. Tankersley, one of the first settlers of western Texas, is dead at the age of 85 years. It was his boast that since he was 20 years old he had never slept under the roof of a house or other building. His bed was in the open air.

Throne Rumors Denied.
Paris.—A semi-official note issued here declares unfounded the rumors that the Russian Crown Prince Alexis has been stricken with an incurable malady. It also denies that special action has been taken in regard to assuring the succession to the Russian throne.

Four Hanged in Oregon.
Salem, Ore.—Frank Garrison, Noble Paulsen, H. E. Roberts and Michael Morgan were hanged here for murder. Gov. West had refused to reprieve the men because the voters at the last election had refused to abolish capital punishment.

100 Vessels Are Wrecked.
Naples.—A terrific explosion, the cause of which could not be learned, destroyed upward of 100 small vessels in the harbor here. It is feared that many persons were killed.

Whitelaw Reid Is Ill.
London.—Whitelaw Reid, United States ambassador to Great Britain, is seriously ill. He is suffering from asthma and his condition has become worse in the last week. Several specialists are in attendance.

Held for Shooting Girl's Relatives.
Bedford, Ia.—Charles McCordue was arrested at Carroll, Mo., and is being held charged with the shooting of two members of the Pierson family. He is a rejected suitor of Lola Pierson, who escaped by hiding.

Aeroplane Grazed by Train.
Washington.—Oscar Oleson, an aviator at the war department's aviation field at College Park, is suffering from bruises and shocks as the result of a narrow escape from diving in his machine into a train.

New Nickels by February 1.
Washington.—The new nickel, with an Indian head on the face, will be in circulation, according to the expectations of the treasury department, by February 1. Secretary MacVeagh has definitely accepted the design.

PEACE DELEGATES PARLEY IN LONDON

ENVOYS OF GREECE, SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO GREETED BY BIG CROWD.

SIR GREY OPENED MEETING

British Secretary Will Make Short Speech of Welcome—Continued Mobilization Confirms Feeling War Is Desired.

London.—All the delegates to the peace conference are in London. The Greek, Serbian and Montenegrin commissions were greeted at the Charing Cross station by a large and cosmopolitan crowd.

The lord mayor of London, Sir David Burnett, gave a luncheon to the British foreign secretary, attended the opening meeting and made a short speech of welcome.

Dr. Danef, one of the Bulgarian delegates, conferred with Alfred von Kiderlin-Waechter, the German foreign minister, as he passed through Berlin on his way to London.

Roumanian Plan Scorned.
A semi-official report says that France and England have declined to accept the proposal of Roumanian that she participate in Sir Edward Grey's informal ambassadorial "conversations," which will be held at the same time as the peace conference. It was feared that if Roumanian was allowed to confer with the representatives of the larger powers the scope of the conference would be so enlarged that complications would ensue.

Premier Venizelos of Greece while on his way to London gave an interview in Paris to the effect that Greece was certain to stand side by side with the allies during the negotiations, and that Greece recognized the necessity of maintaining the Balkan federation strong and indissoluble.

Greeks Still Fighting.
Despatches still tell of desultory fighting between Greeks and Turks around Janina, and one report has it that a body of Garibaldians, which came to aid the Greeks, had occupied the village of Drisco, near Janina, after hours of heavy fighting.

Throughout the conferences Austria still continues to mobilize her troops, according to the scanty news from Vienna, and her attitude is the cause of a great deal of uneasy speculation. Officially it is denied that she has taken an unsympathetic attitude toward the meeting of the ambassadors, though this report is in active circulation, and her statements also say that it is untrue that action against the Serbs on the part of Austria is imminent.

Aliens Get Compromise.
Wytheville, Va.—Thirty-five years in the penitentiary is the penalty Sidney Allen will pay for his part in the "shooting up" of the court house at Hillsville last March, when five persons, including the presiding judge, the sheriff and the commonwealth's attorney, were killed by members of the Allen clan, and a number of others wounded.

Strikers Kill 2; Shoot 20.
Shady Side, N. J.—Deputy sheriffs with loaded repeating rifles on their shoulders and automatic pistols in their belts patrolled the Palisades and Hudson river wharves here, ready to quell any renewal of the rioting that resulted in the killing of two special police and the wounding of 20 others.

Wife, Who Shot Man, Guilty.
Lockport, N. Y.—The jury in the case of Mrs. Mary Hanner, charged with shooting her husband, George Hanner, with intent to kill, brought in a verdict of guilty. Judge Hickey imposed a sentence of imprisonment for not less than ten years and not more than fifteen years and six months.

Survived Balloon Fall, Dies.
Edmonton, Ala.—Charles Wolcott, who fell 2,000 feet with a balloon in South America seventeen years ago, died here after an illness of several months.

Progressive Meeting Ends.
Chicago.—With the departure of Col. Roosevelt for New York, the Progressive national conference, which was on here for two days, became history. Nearly 1,500 Progressives from every state in the country except Nevada attended.

Woman Senator Plans Health Bill.
Denver, Colo.—Helen Ring Robinson, who was elected Colorado's first woman state senator at the last election, will introduce a bill at the next assembly requiring health certificates before marriage.

Woman Killed in Explosion.
Danville, Ill.—Mrs. Ida Lind, 51 years old, was preparing breakfast on a coal range. Vapor from a can of gasoline in the same room became ignited by the hot stove and exploded, killing Mrs. Lind.

Elopes With Fiance's Chum.
Chicago.—Coming here from Fort Worth, Tex., to wed Miss Myrtle Pierce, Rudolph E. B. Muller, a wealthy young man, eloped with Miss Dorothy Regal, his fiancée's chum, and was married in Cincinnati.

Murder Verdict in 15 Minutes.
Virginia, Minn.—A jury which found Tom Marinel guilty of murder in the first degree for the killing of Lucy Bucovic here made a Minnesota record for speed by announcing its verdict within 15 minutes.

Kansas Gets Inheritance Tax.
Topeka, Kan.—The state of Kansas received an inheritance tax of \$23,920 on the \$2,000,000 estate of the late Henry Dexter of New York. Dexter owned \$600,000 in railroad stocks and was taxable in Kansas.

Montana Mine Burning.
Butte, Mont.—Fire broke out between the 1,500 and 1,700 foot level of the Stewart mine, belonging to the Anaconda Mining company, and is still burning. Mine officials say that all of the miners were taken out.

POWERS TO WATCH PARLEY FOR PEACE

AMBASSADORS TO HOLD "CONVERSATIONS" SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH PARLEY.

NOT SURE OF AN AGREEMENT

Situation Summed Up in Carefully Worded Speech by Sir Edward Grey—Conference Would Meet in Paris.

London.—Sir Edward Grey, the British foreign secretary, formally announced in the house of commons that the ambassadors of the great powers would meet in London simultaneously with the plenipotentiaries of Turkey and of the Balkan States, who are to discuss peace here.

Sir Edward defined the object of the ambassadors' gathering as "an informal and noncommittal consultation, which is, of course, an indication that the European powers are not yet sure that a solution of all the difficulties is in sight."

Commenting upon the European situation, the secretary for foreign affairs said:

Situation Is Favorable.
"Hopes and anxieties have varied from day to day, and may continue for some time to vary. It is difficult to say anything without causing undue pessimism or raising hopes which might subsequently be disappointed. The relations between the governments of these powers are amicable, and there is anxiety lest some untoward or unforeseen incident occur."

Emphasizing the fact that the conversations would not constitute a conference, Sir Edward Grey added that should a formal conference be found opportune or necessary it would presumably meet in Paris, as the suggestion first emanated from Premier Poincaré of France.

Taft to Become Professor.
New York.—President Taft will not go to Cincinnati and practice law when he leaves the White House, but has agreed to accept a professorship in the Yale law school. This statement was made by a close friend of President Taft, who said he was acquainted with the president's plans.

Train Kills "Dry" Leader.
Jackson, Miss.—Dr. E. A. Rowan, 75 years old, state senator from Copiah county, was killed at Vesson by an Illinois Central passenger train. Rowan walked onto the railroad track, apparently unconscious of the approaching train, when he was struck. He was a prohibition leader.

Woman Lawyer Confesses.
Lansing, Mich.—Police are digging for bodies in the cellar of the "house of mystery," home of Mrs. Mary Lucas, an attorney, the confessed murderer of Mrs. Pauline Singel. The police say their investigation will disclose a case rivaling the famous "murder farm" of Mrs. Guinness.

Bean Grows in Man's Ear.
San Francisco, Cal.—Two beans, one of which had sprouted into an embryo plant, were removed here from the head of a Mexican laborer by Dr. H. V. Bacon. For months the man had complained of severe pains. The beans had entered his head through his left ear.

Six Dead in Hotel Fire.
Cincinnati, O.—Six women are believed to have perished in a fire that destroyed the Gibson hotel, Rindge-Lothman department store, W. L. Douglas shoe company and the office of the Missouri Pacific and gutted the ten top floors of the Union Trust company building.

Suffragettes New Move.
London.—Two months in prison was the sentence imposed in police court on Miss Elsie Howey, the only suffragette participating in the false fire alarm plot whom the police were able to catch. The young woman was seen to turn in an alarm from a corner box.

Corset Saves Woman's Life.
St. Louis.—Mrs. T. J. Stephenson attributes the fact that she escaped death at the hands of a mysterious woman assassin, who wielded a knife, to the fact that she wore a corset when an attack was made at the front door of her home.

Policeman Killed Quelling Row.
Virden, Ill.—Sent to quell a disturbance at the home of Dominick Bernardo, Night Policeman John Shaw was killed by a charge from a shotgun fired at close range by Ben Amione, who was within the house.

Ask Tariff Revision Rush.
Washington.—As soon as President Wilson arrives in this country leading Democrats have expressed their intention to wait on him and urge that congress be called in extraordinary session to revise the tariff.

Montana's Wheat Wins.
Minneapolis, Minn.—Joseph P. Nash and Charles Bridgman, of Clyde Park, Mont., won the \$5,000 first prize for the best five bushels of wheat exhibited at the Northwestern Products exposition, held here.

Taft to Sail December 19.
Washington.—President Taft will leave Washington at midnight December 19 for Key West, Fla., whence he will sail on the afternoon of December 21 for Panama, on the battleship Arkansas.

Newest, Largest Gun Explodes.
New York.—A gun of 14-inch caliber, and of 50 tons' weight, the largest and newest type built by the United States government, at a cost of \$129,000, exploded at the Sandy Hook proving grounds.

Kills Self at the Altar.
Bucharest.—A captain of the Forth Clugher regiment, Constantine Ifton, committed suicide by shooting himself through the head before the altar while a priest was performing a marriage ceremony.

3 HELD ON PLOT TO BLACKMAIL WILSON

WHARTON, N. J., MEN ACCUSED OF SENDING GOVERNOR THREATENING LETTER.

DEMANDS GOLD TO SAAE LIFE

One of Prisoners Is Said to Have Confessed Other Framed Missive—Arresting Officer Threatened With an Axe.

New York.—A letter received by Governor Woodrow Wilson, president-elect, threatening him with death unless he paid \$5,000, led to the arrest by federal officials of three wood choppers living in log huts at Ford Mine, an iron mining settlement adjoining the town of Wharton, in Morris county, N. J.

The men arrested are Jacob Dunn, 35 years old; his brother, Warren Dunn, 32 years old, and Seely Davenport, 28 years old. Jacob Dunn is charged with having been the actual writer of the letter and the others are charged with having aided in its composition.

Threatens U. S. Marshal.
The men were taken by Louis G. Beekman, United States marshal of Newark, and by Francis A. Butler and Clinton A. Larrabee, postoffice inspectors. The officers found Jacob Dunn chopping wood near the hut in which he and his brother live, high up on the side of a hill.

When informed he was under arrest he raised his axe as if to strike the marshal, whereupon two revolvers were pointed at his head and he was ordered to drop the axe. He sullenly complied and was led down the hillside by Beekman and Larrabee, with Warren Dunn and Davenport, who had been arrested previously.

The three prisoners were taken to Newark, where they were arraigned before United States Commissioner Stockton, and ordered by him to the Essex county jail in \$2,000 bonds.

One Prisoner Confesses.
Warren Dunn is said to have charged his brother, Jacob, with having written the letter to Gov. Wilson. The letter was received at the governor's office in Trenton November 11 and was opened by his private secretary, Joseph T. Tumulty. The envelope was addressed "Mr. Woodrow Wilson, Trenton, N. J., and in the upper left hand corner was written, 'If not delivered in five days return to R. F. D. route 2, box 45, Wharton, N. J.'"

Taft Accepts Chief at Yale.
New York.—President Taft will not go to Cincinnati and practice law when he leaves the White House, but has agreed to accept a professorship in Yale law school. This statement was made authoritatively by a close friend of President Taft, who said he was acquainted with the president's plans.

Mississippi Senator Killed.
Jackson, Miss.—Dr. E. A. Rowan, aged 75, state senator from Copiah county, was killed at Vesson by an Illinois Central passenger train. Rowan walked onto the railroad track, apparently unconscious of the approaching train, when he was struck. He was a prohibition leader.

Nine Believed Dead in Snow Slide.
Cordova, Alaska.—Nine men are believed to have been killed when a snow slide on Copper Mountain carried away eleven buildings of the Great Northern Development company. Eleven men were buried, and only two have been removed alive.

Kills 1, Wounds 1, Ends Life.
Kansas City, Mo.—Crazed by jealousy over a woman, B. C. Dudley, 35 years old, shot and killed Charles McGee, aged 19; shot and slightly wounded Duff, aged 23, and then killed himself.

Safe Blower Is Killed.
Memphis, Tenn.—In a police raid on a house in the outskirts of Memphis, a "kinky" Bergen, believed to be a widely known safe blower, was killed by city detectives. Frank Holloway and two other men and a woman were arrested.

Counterfeiter Gets Seven Years.
Los Angeles, Cal.—Thomas V. Redman, who officers said admitted having passed \$36,000 in spurious coin in Portland, Seattle and Spokane, was sentenced to serve seven years in prison.

Burned to Death in Cattle Car.
Le Salle, Ill.—Thomas Adams, a cattleman from Iowa City, Ia., died in a hospital here from burns received in a cattle car fire at Sheffield, Ill.

Prisoner Has \$10,000 in Diamonds.
San Francisco.—Ten thousand dollars' worth of uncut diamonds were taken from the pockets of an alleged "fire escape" burglar, who was captured by police detectives after a chase through downtown streets.

Ship and Twenty Men Missing.
Lewisburg, C. B.—The British steamer Morien, with a crew of 20 men, is thought to have been lost in one of the recent storms. No news of the steamer has been received since she left Lewisburg, November 16.

Kills Self at the Altar.
Bucharest.—A captain of the Forth Clugher regiment, Constantine Ifton, committed suicide by shooting himself through the head before the altar while a priest was performing a marriage ceremony.

MISSOURI STATE NEWS

Two Judges on One Bench.

In spite of the fact that Charles H. Mayer, Democrat, was elected to the circuit bench at St. Joseph in the November election, W. K. Amick, Republican, refused to turn over the place to him. Judge Amick was named by Gov. Hadley to take the place left vacant when L. J. Eastin resigned two years ago. Eastin's term would not have expired until 1914 and Amick contends that he was named to fill out that term. Mayer, on the other hand, argues that Amick was named only until the next following election, which was November 5. Amick and Mayer discussed their respective standing in chambers and decided that a friendly settlement would be made through the supreme court. In the meantime Amick will hold court and Mayer will look on.

Bible Students' Fight Fatal.

Bryan Crane, 16-year-old son of Dr. T. B. V. Crane of Springfield, died in the Burge Deaconess hospital in Springfield from effects of wounds inflicted with a pocketknife by Marshall Copeland at Morrisville. Copeland is 26 years old and is married. He is said to have attacked Crane after several students had "picked on" him. Both were students at the Methodist college in Morrisville. Copeland was studying for the ministry. Copeland has been at Morrisville only a short time. His home is in southeast Missouri.

Girls the Better Students.

The young women of the University of Missouri still are maintaining their record for superior scholarship, according to the Phi Beta Kappa awards. Of the five best students of the class of 1903 chosen for membership in the honor society four are women. Those selected for the highest of scholarship honors are Winifred H. Hawkins of Maryville, Fern Helen Rusk of Windor, Kenneth Craddock Sears of LaPlata, Mo.; Alma Steele of Webb City, and Josephine Dunlap Sutton, New London, Conn.

Beware of Promoters.

State Bank Commissioner Swanger, in a formal statement, issued a warning to the people against the purchase of stock in proposed banking institutions unless the person offering such stock for sale is personally known. He says during the last few months several institutions have been organized by professional promoters which have turned out badly.

Plan to Help Inebriates.

A "restroom" with a jail lock on the door is ready for inebriates, drug fiends and other unfortunates who come under the notice of the St. Louis police. A section of the city hall is to be used pending the erection of a new building. The death of several prisoners in their cells who had been wrongly classed as intoxicated or drug "fiends" led to the reform.

Boxing Lid is on in Springfield.

The granting of a writ of mandamus by the Springfield court of appeals ousting the Queen City Athletic club from its charter sounded the death knell to boxing in Springfield. The court was unable to secure service on the Springfield Athletic club, its officers having left the city.

Cross Davis and Jonathan.

After 12 years experimenting the Missouri Fruit Experiment Station at Mountain Grove has successfully crossed Ben Davis and Jonathan apples.

The End to a Daviess County Pioneer.

Joseph Whit, a pioneer citizen of Daviess county, died recently of heart disease at his home five miles southwest of Gallatin.

Visiting Committee at Rolla.

The visiting committee of the Forty-seventh General Assembly of Missouri, consisting of Senator Thomas Lyaght and Representatives-elect A. A. Vitt of Franklin county, and A. W. Teel of Clark county, which their secretary, M. W. Rider, inspected the School of Mines and Metallurgy and the State Geological Survey.

Missouri Educator Honored.

Prof. Harold W. Foght, head of the department of rural education in the Kirksville Normal school, has been appointed a special representative of the United States Bureau of Education, to make a study of the rural school systems of Denmark, Holland and Germany. He will go abroad before the first of the year.

Frisco to Teach Farmers.

The Frisco railroad, through its agricultural department, has begun a month's institute for farmers of the Ozark regions at Springfield. Lectures by competent authorities will be given in the forenoon and afternoon of each week day during all of December.

Sculptor Talks to Students.

George I. Zolnay, a St. Louis sculptor, who was head of the art department at the St. Louis world's fair in 1904, spoke at the Missouri university convocation recently and lectured to art students in Columbia.

A Retired Sedalia Farmer Dead.

Felix McGaw, 83 years old, a retired farmer, died in Sedalia recently. Four children survive. John H. McGaw, secretary of the Postmen's and Letter Carriers' association of Missouri, is one of the sons.

Dedicated New Chapel.

Bishop Sidney Catlin Partridge and a number of other distinguished divines of the Kansas City diocese of the Episcopal church were in Chillicothe recently for the purpose of dedicating the new parish house and chapel of Grace church.

Rich Hill Has Many Lodges.

Rich Hill boasts of 18 flourishing fraternal lodges, including the Elks and Eagles, which is one for each 152 persons, according to the last federal census.

DOINGS OF CONGRESS

An understanding for a recess of congress for the Christmas holidays from December 19 until January 2 was reached between senate and house leaders. The latter adopted a resolution to that effect.

More than \$5,000,000 derived from sales of property taken from owners in the South after the civil war would be repaid to the Southern claimants by the terms of a bill passed by the house.

President Taft expects to send to the senate early in January the nomination of Judge Fenton W. Booth of the court of claims as chief justice of that court, succeeding Stanton J. Peelle, who will retire.

Representative Hamlin of Missouri introduced a bill in the house appropriating \$50,000 for a site and government building at Fayette, Mo.

By announcing he will oppose submitting to arbitration the controversy between the United States and Great Britain over the exemption of American coastwise shipping from Panama canal tolls, Senator Stone of Missouri of the committee on foreign relations reflected the apparently firm attitude of a majority of senators, irrespective of politics.

One of the last official acts of Representative Louis B. Hanna, governor-elect of North Dakota, was to introduce in the house a bill providing that all fourth-class postmasters be placed on a salary basis, with the minimum of \$400, instead of the present fee system. There are thousands of fourth-class postmasters who receive less than \$400 a year and many who receive less than \$100.

Representative Anthony of Kansas introduced a bill appropriating \$50,000 for the purchase by the United States of a bridge across the Missouri river at Fort Leavenworth, Kas., connecting the military reservations in Kansas and Missouri. Mr. Anthony thinks the United States should own this bridge outright, to be used for military and public purposes.

Thorough revision, schedule by schedule, of the present tariff law by the next congress was indicated by the decision of the Democratic members of the house ways and means committee. Hearings will be held Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, commencing January 6.

By a vote of 141 to 101, the house of representatives refused to concur in the resolution authorizing an inquiry looking to the purchase by the government of Monticello, the old Virginia home of Thomas Jefferson, now owned by Representative Jefferson Levy of New York.

The appointment of Carmel Thompson, President Taft's former secretary, as treasurer of the United States was unanimously confirmed by the senate. Congress set the machinery in motion for the inauguration of Woodrow Wilson as president of the United States on March 4. Resolutions were passed by both houses proposing the creation of a joint committee to make arrangements for the inauguration. Speaker Clark promptly selected the committee that will represent the house. He appointed Representatives Rucker of Missouri and Garrett of Tennessee, Democrats, and Representative McKinley of Illinois, Republican. Mr. McKinley was manager of the Taft proponent campaign.

On the first "bill day" in the senate for the present session a number of important bills were introduced. Senator McCumber of North Dakota introduced his promised bill retiring ex-presidents of the United States with the rank of commanders of the army and navy at a salary of \$10,000 a year. The bill provides a pension of \$5,000 a year for the widows of former presidents.

Amended to authorize a complete investigation into the question of interstate carrier corporations' stock and bond issues, the bill by Representative Hanson empowering the interstate commerce commission to make a physical valuation of the property of railroads and other common carriers, was passed by the house without a dissenting vote.

Representative A. Mitchell Palmer in the house led a sharp attack upon Whitelaw Reid, ambassador to Great Britain,